



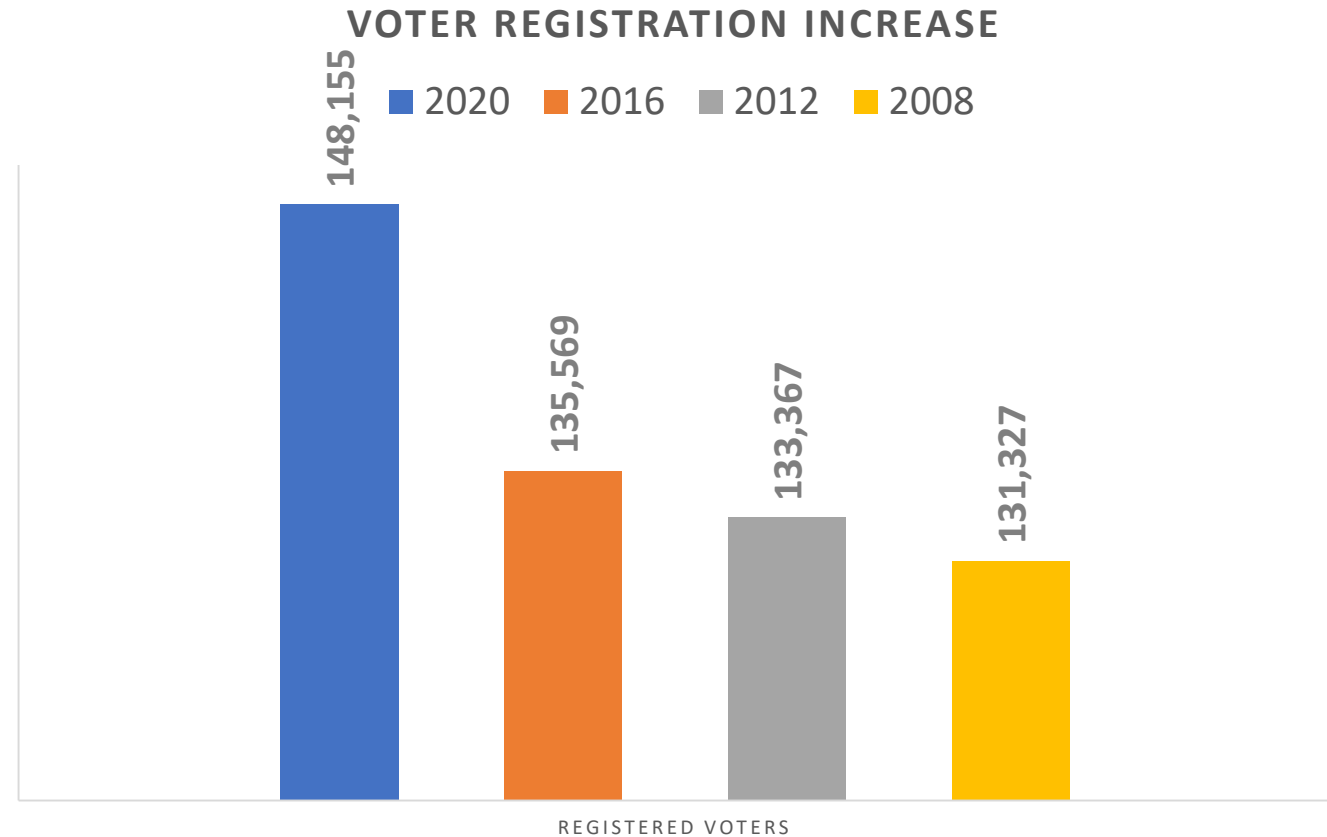
CITY OF
GRAND
RAPIDS

Election Update
October 27, 2020

Election Update

Voter Registration

- Voter Registration has increased greatly since 2016.
- Proposal 3 of 2018 changed voter registration from being an opt-in process at the Secretary of State Office to an opt-out procedure.
- Many organizations have spent the last four years registering qualified electors to vote.
- There has also been an increase in the population in the City which would add voters.



Election Update

Absentee Ballots

- 59,273 ballots have been issued and have received 43,171 ballots back. That is a 72% return rate.
- Senate Bill 757 was signed into law to allow pre-processing of Absentee Ballots the day before the election. Over 80 AVCB workers assigned to pre-processing and Absent Voter Counting Board.
- Positive Absentee/Registration Events held at Dwelling Place residences and Souls to the Polls at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church and City Hall
- The Clerk's Office is open 5-7 pm every Tuesday and Thursday (City Hall and Election Central which is located at 201 Market SW)
- Clerk's Office open on Saturday, October 31 7:00 am – 3:00 pm (City Hall and Election Central)



Election Update

Absentee Ballots continued

- If you still have an Absentee Ballot, you are encouraged to return it to the Clerk's Office or in a drop box. We are too close to Election Day for the mail.
- The last date to have an Absentee Ballot mailed to you is Friday at 5:00 pm. You may receive a ballot in person on Saturday and Monday. On Monday, you need to vote it in the Clerk's office. The cutoff for receiving an Absentee Voting is Monday, November 2 at 4:00 pm.
- The last time to return your ballot is 8:00 pm on Election Night that includes the mail. It is not by the postmark
- Make Sure to sign your envelope. We have had very few unsigned ballots or mismatched signatures



Election Update

Election Day – In Precinct Voting

- Intimidation and Harassment will not be tolerated in the precincts. Election workers will handle the situation first and then a response from the City if not resolved
- Voters may not wear campaign buttons, masks, hats, shirts, etc. They will need to remove them or cover them
- Voters may wear items that say simply vote or other political themes that does not promote a party or a candidate/proposal on the ballot
- Polls are open from 7 am – 8 pm. Anyone in line at 8:00 may still vote.



Election Update

Election Day – In Precinct Voting continued

- 7 to 10 Election Workers at each precinct
 - \$100 Hazard Pay for every worker
- Precinct Workers will wear badges that identify them as workers
- With this amount of workers, we will have greeters working the line to make sure voters are in the right place and to observe what is happening outside at the precinct
- Poll Challengers are appointed and credentialed by political parties and registered interest groups. They will also be given a badge to differentiate them from workers. Challengers may be behind the workers and observe the process and make challenges. Challenges must be made with a reason and made to a precinct chair/worker and not a voter. They may not touch anything. Challengers may not be disruptive and may be asked to leave.
- Poll Watchers are allowed in a public area. They do not have to have credentials and there isn't a limit to the number. They may not be disruptive and do not make challenges. They may be asked to leave if disruptive.



Election Update

Election Day – In Precinct Voting continued

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) provided for every worker
 - Includes masks, gloves, and face shields
- Everyone in the precinct must wear a mask unless they are a voter, but we are recommending that voters wear a mask.
- Voters have to show photo id if it is in their possession. If they do not have a photo id with them, they fill out an affidavit on the backside of their application and it is also signed by an election worker.
- A workgroup including Clerk's Office, Executive Office, Emergency Management, Public Safety, Attorney's Office, 311 and other departments meets weekly to discuss and plan for polling place safety and post-election concerns



Election Update

0-14 Day Registration

- A qualified elector may register to vote up to and including Election Day. If they are in line at 8:00 pm, they may still register with a proof of residency. The registration must be done at the Clerk's Office (City Hall or Election Central) and not at the precinct.
- Monday – Friday of this week, the Clerk's Office is utilizing the Calder level and the Commission Chambers for Voter Registration and/or Absentee Voting. On Saturday, Monday, Tuesday we will be using the Monroe Level Parking, Calder Level and the Commission Chambers
- On Monday, November 2 and Election Day we have added to our team several City Employees and former City Employees.
- A voter who registers on Election Day may choose to go the precinct or vote an Absentee Ballot at the Clerk's Office.



Election Update

Election Communications

- The Clerk's Office contracted with Well Design to develop messages and visuals to provide information to voters and have a cohesive grvotes branding.
- I have conducted several interviews with local and national television, radio and newspapers. The Clerk's Staff participated in a couple in-depth stories on Absentee Voting process.
- Facebook ads have been placed to give voters factual and practical information and have been shared many times.
- I will be available to television stations on Election morning before the polls open.
- Videos have been produced that will be posted on social media during the final week.
- The Clerk's Office and the Office of Communication will respond as needed as questions arise from the community.

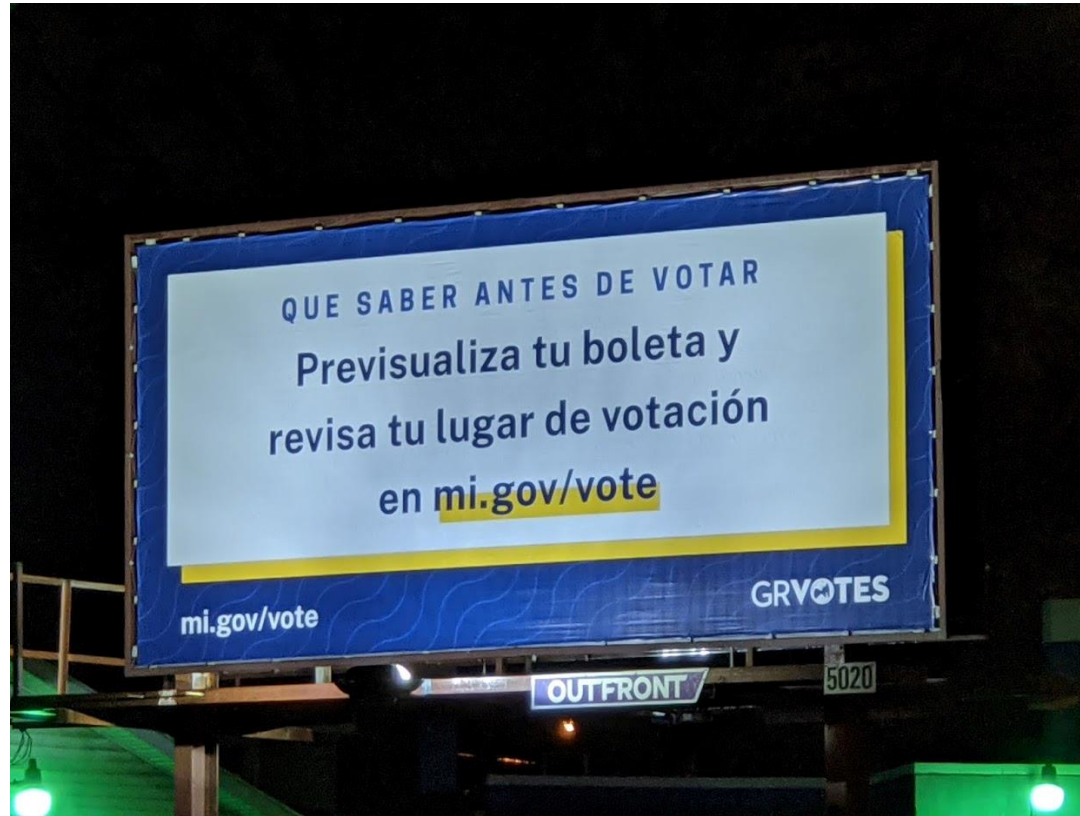


Election Update

Election Communications continued

- Outfront media donated billboard space for Election messaging.

Billboard on Grandville
Avenue between Hall
and Franklin





Questions